

CITY OF COVENTRY.



ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1946

BY

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(T. MORRISON CLAYTON, M.D., B.Hy., D.P.H.)

Vital Statistics for the year 1946.

	Rate per 1,000 population on Registrar General's Mid-year estimate (232,850)	Comparative figures for England and Wales
Birth Rate	22·4	19·1
Marriage Rate	17·1	17·9
Death Rate	10·0	11·5
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 births)	54·	43
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 births)	1·34	1·43
Death Rate from Respiratory Diseases ..	1·11	1·36
" " " Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0·58	0·46
" " " Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	0·09	0·03
" " " Infectious Diseases ..	0·32	—
" " " Puerperal Causes ..	0·01	—
" " " Cancer	1·52	1·35

CITY OF COVENTRY.

1946 Annual Report

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Right Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen
and Councillors of the City of Coventry.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In presenting the Annual Health Report for Coventry for 1946, which is the 72nd in the series, it is necessary to state that during this period Dr. Arthur Massey was still your Medical Officer of Health: he was unable, however, to compile this report since the Registrar-General's Statistical Analysis was not available at the time of his departure from Coventry. I should like to take this opportunity of wishing Dr. Massey much happiness and success in his appointment as Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of National Insurance, to which high office he proceeded in April, 1947, with the good wishes of the Coventry Health Department, following 17 years of eventful public health administration in this City.

It will be noted that for the period under review, the Registrar-General's estimate of population for the City has increased by 10,880 and this must be due, in large measure, to the expansion of industry in the area and the increasing demands for labour.

The death-rate for the City showed a decrease to 10.0 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 10.5 for the previous year; the death-rate for England and Wales was 11.5 and for the larger towns, 12.7.

The City birth-rate was 22.4 per 1,000 population as compared with 22.2 for the previous year and compares favourably with that of England and Wales at 19.1 and for the larger towns at 22.2.

The maternal mortality rate of 1.34 per thousand births compares favourably with that for England and Wales at 1.43. Likewise, the infantile mortality rate is down to 54 per 1,000 births as compared with 68 for the previous year, but does not compare so favourably with the rate for England and Wales at 43 and for the larger towns at 46.

It is pleasing to note a decrease in the number of notifications of people suffering from tuberculosis, these being the lowest since 1941. This should give little justification for complacency, however, since it is apparent that housing conditions and incidence of tuberculosis are closely allied factors, and with the gradual provision of adequate housing accommodation generally, there should be a tendency to fewer notifications of tuberculosis, year by year. It is indeed unfortunate that shortage of houses and limitation of staff and beds* at sanatoria are running hand in hand since this reacts unfavourably against the early treatment and possible cure of at least a proportion of those patients who are on the waiting lists, while at the same time creating more favourable conditions for the spread of infection to contacts. There have been many applications through the health department for housing priority consideration during the year based on circumstances arising through this disease.

It is a matter of some concern to find that the number of new cases of Venereal disease has increased by 166 over the figure for 1945 and indeed, is the highest figure ever recorded in this City. It is likewise pertinent to say, however, that many more people are coming forward voluntarily for examination, the greater proportion of whom are found not to be infected.

With regard to the incidence of infectious diseases, there has been a reduction in the number of cases of scarlet fever from 483 in 1945, to 232 in the year under review; likewise in diphtheria, from 146 in 1945, to 115 in 1946. A reduction in ophthalmia neonatorum, from 20 cases in 1945 to 6 cases in 1946, reflects great credit on the maternity services in this City. Notifications of whooping cough were at 628 for 1946 as compared with 366 for the previous year. Generally speaking, the incidence of all notifiable diseases in this City has declined in comparison with that for the previous year, *i.e.*, 2,708 in 1946 and 2,888 for 1945.

Maternity and general hospital accommodation in the City continues to be a most acute problem and the staff at the Municipal Hospital have coped magnificently with a most difficult situation. It is earnestly hoped that the Regional Hospital administration will quickly bring much-needed succour to the hard-pressed hospital resources of this City.

The year has been made noteworthy by the National Health Service enactment. While it may, perhaps, be a source of temporary regret that the municipal hospitals which the local authority has painstakingly built up and administered, are to be relinquished to the Regional Hospital Boards, yet there is, in this process of evolution much hope for the future of all sick people who are in need of comprehensive and specialised treatment in hospitals. Important work remains to the local authority and, indeed, is added to in many directions. The coming years will give great scope for planning and ingenuity in the spheres of health and social medicine.

Population.

There was a decided increase in the population of the City during 1946. The Registrar-General's mid-year figure being at 232,850, while his estimate for the previous year was given as 221,970. The local estimate of population, for 1946, as provided by the Food Office was 233,000.

The mid-year estimate for the last pre-war year was 219,900 and this figure may place in better perspective the present trend which is mainly due to the greater call on man-power by local industry. It also tends to underline the additional strain placed upon available housing in the area.

Birth Rate.

The 1946 birth rate in Coventry was 22.4, compared with a figure of 19.1 for England and Wales and with 22.2 for the great towns collectively. Of the births notified in the City during the year, 54.3 per cent. were attended by the municipal midwives, 24.0 per cent. took place in the municipal hospital, and 1.8 per cent. were attended by nursing associations working for the local authority. The importance of the municipal midwifery service is evident from these figures.

Infantile Mortality.

The infant mortality rate in Coventry during 1946 was 54 per 1,000 births as compared with 68 the previous year. The figure for England and Wales was 43 and the average for the great towns was 46. The present local rate is heartening but there is yet much room for improvement, although this may be somewhat retarded pending the further development of housing and the further augmentation of the health visiting staff, which has a fundamental rôle to play in domiciliary visiting. Likewise, the acute shortage of hospital beds, both general and maternity, is bound to have an adverse effect upon the infantile mortality rate.

Deaths from infantile diarrhoea showed an increase over those for the previous year (62 : 55), and while more beds were set aside at the City Isolation Hospital for the treatment of infantile gastro-enteritis, during the year, yet the need for additional nurses to staff further accommodation, for the treatment of this disease alone, is still apparent.

Infantile deaths from pneumonia showed a substantial decline (51 : 72). Premature birth was the highest single cause of deaths in children under 1 year (81 in 1946 : 79 in 1945).

Maternal Mortality.

The City's maternal mortality rate of 1.2 per 1,000 births for 1945 was considered as being very satisfactory, and that for 1946, at 1.34, must be regarded as being good : it is among the lowest recorded in the great towns for the year. The figure also speaks volumes for the care and efficiency exercised by all who are working the ante-natal and midwifery services in Coventry under exacting conditions.

General Death Rate.

Based on the Registrar-General's mid-year estimate of population, the City death rate last year was 10.0, compared with 10.5 in 1945. The local death rate continues to be well below that for the country as a whole, which was 11.5.

Of the local rate of 10.0, deaths from cancer accounted for 1.52. Cancer was second only to heart disease as a cause of death, while vascular intracranial lesions were the next greatest cause.

Infectious Diseases.

The following figures are those for notifiable diseases occurring within the City during 1946:—

Diphtheria, 115 (146:212); scarlet fever, 232 (483:406), measles, 1,076 (1,170); whooping-cough, 628 (366); acute primary pneumonia, 155 (107:290); puerperal pyrexia, 50 (42:54); typhoid and paratyphoid fever, 2 (3:19); and cerebro-spinal meningitis, 12 (14:36). The comparative figures in brackets are those for 1945 and for the last complete pre-war year 1938 in that order. In the last-mentioned year measles and whooping-cough were not notifiable.

During the year, 2,277 patients suffering from scabies were treated at the Scabies and Cleansing Centre.

Generally speaking, the total incidence of notifiable infectious diseases was noticeably lower during 1946 than in the preceding year (*i.e.* 2,708:2,888), the major exception being whooping-cough. A further reduction in the case rate for diphtheria from 146 in 1945 (6 deaths) to 115 in 1946 (4 deaths) was very welcome and an indication that immunisation remains a most potent weapon against this distressing disease—a fact which should be seriously noted by *all* parents and guardians of young children.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

The following table shows the number of children under 15 years of age who have been immunised in Coventry since 1929:—

1929	...	...	1,171	1937	...	...	688
1930	...	...	234	1938	...	...	188
1931	...	...	157	1941	...	...	1,424
1932	...	...	185	1942	...	...	11,379
1933	...	...	427	1943	...	...	4,872
1934	...	...	399	1944	...	...	4,325
1935	...	...	2,985	1945	...	...	4,438
1936	...	...	1,624	1946	...	...	4,687

TOTAL 39,183

Tuberculosis.

During 1946, 294 cases of pulmonary and 42 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified or re-notified in the City. The corresponding numbers for the previous year were 374 and 61, and for the last pre-war year (1938) 231 and 67.

It is a pleasure to record an appreciable decrease in the number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified and one is hopeful that, after the upward trend due to war-time exigencies, we are now witnessing the commencement of a steady decline in this depressing disease which should accelerate as overcrowding is alleviated. Non-pulmonary cases too, which to a large extent must be the result of infected milk, show a slight but acceptable recession, and this should continue to be the case as widespread pasteurisation of milk becomes the vogue.

The list of patients waiting admission to Hertford Hill Sanatorium is high and until more staff can be recruited there is little likelihood that this position will be substantially altered. The present staff, like so many others throughout the country, are working under great difficulties and are to be congratulated upon their endeavours.

Coventry applicants for Tuberculosis Allowances during the year numbered 95 and of these 29 were allowed.

Venereal Diseases.

The peak of venereal diseases incidence was reached in 1946, when 1,472 new cases attended the clinic. It is to be noted that 882 of these were found after test to be non-venereal, but even so the number of actual new cases was the highest yet recorded in any year, including the war years. Such a position emphasises the importance of informed educative measures in social hygiene to combat this unsatisfactory trend in the disease. The V.D. Social Worker continues to do valuable work in following up defaulters and tracing and advising contacts, and during the year under review, was responsible for introducing or returning 321 sufferers from this complaint to the venereal diseases clinics for routine treatment.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The attendance at the seventeen City welfare centres during 1946 totalled 65,079, as compared with 76,649 in the previous year.

Attendances at the five ante-natal clinics numbered 11,489, as compared with 8,283 in the preceding year (*i.e.* an increase of 3,206). This figure alone gives some idea of the rapidly growing demands for the service and an indication of the increasing strain placed upon the existing and still grossly inadequate number of maternity beds in Coventry hospitals. At the end of 1946 there was a total of 49 maternity beds available at Gulson Road Municipal Hospital and the number of births registered there during that year was 1,066. There were also 25 beds available for convalescing mothers at the Allesley House annexe. The Coventry and Warwickshire Voluntary Hospital have 25 maternity beds, of which 6 are earmarked for cases referred by the municipal service.

The Municipal Midwives are up to establishment and are dealing most efficiently with domiciliary cases, of which there

were 2,407 during the year. Most of the staff have certificates of proficiency in the use and administration of gas and air analgesia and the remainder are in course of training.

During the year there were 5,225 births recorded for the City, these being much in excess of those for 1945 (*i.e.* 4,949) and second only to those recorded in any previous year, namely, 5,466 in 1944.

Home Helps' Service.

This service which was inaugurated in Coventry in 1945 has continued to play a most useful part in the general social services of the City.

Average No. of Home Helps employed during					
the year	...	...	...	...	16

No. of patients assisted :—

(a) Maternity	...	...	...	325
(b) Sickness, etc.	...	...	...	830
				— 1155

Sick Room Appliances.

In November, 1944, a stock of sick room appliances was purchased by the department and a scheme was instituted whereby members of the public could hire any of these articles at a small charge. The service met a definite need at the time and it is pleasing to note that the demand has continued.

Day Nurseries.

The nine day nurseries in the City are greatly appreciated by mothers and continue to do excellent work. At the end of the year there were 290 children on the nursery registers and, during the year, there were 87,040 attendances. Efforts to obtain an alternative site for the Foleshill Day Nursery, now housed on a doctor's premises, have been successful and it is hoped that work will soon commence there and shortly free the existing building to revert to its previous usage.

Avenue House Residential Nursery.

The Nursery serviced a distinct need in the City and by the end of 1946 was gaining increasing popularity. It was open throughout the entire year and improved dormitory accommodation was available as from July, thereby bringing the number of cots available up to 26.

The average period of stay for each of the 92 children admitted during the year was 31 days. A direct City water supply was installed and in use by the early spring, thereby greatly increasing the amenities within the building. A further major improvement occurred with the completion of the sewage plant, this being brought into use during the autumn.

The Work of the Municipal General Hospital.

During the year 1946 the patients admitted to the Gulson Road Municipal Hospital numbered 4,981, and there were also 10,976 out-patients treated there. In addition 1,066 births took place in the hospital maternity wards, and of these 672 mothers and their babies (*i.e.* 1,363 persons) were transferred to the Allesley House Maternity Home as soon as practicable after their confinement. The Allesley Hall Convalescent Home for female patients is organised as a part of the Municipal Hospital and 769 patients were transferred there for convalescence. Both of these homes are staffed and managed as part of the main hospital and the nursing staffs (apart from the sisters) do a tour of duty at each home.

During the year certain long awaited improvements have been carried out and these have enabled the hospital more adequately to deal with the increase of patients (both "in" and "out") and with the greater variety of types of illness seeking admission :—

The new X-ray plant has been installed and is in full working order.

The kitchen has been re-equipped with more modern plant.

The hospital interior has been almost completely re-painted.

A modern new non-shadow lighting has been fitted in the operating theatres.

City Ambulance Service.

This service now functions as an important part of the Health Department. During the year the personnel has been placed on an established basis and consists of 1 Superintendent, 3 Shift Leaders, 24 men and 6 women. The vehicles available consist of 6 ambulances, 1 car for sitting cases, and 1 general service waggon.

The calls dealt with in 1946 numbered 13,419. Included in this figure are the daily transfers from Gulson Road Municipal Hospital to the Convalescent Home and to the Maternity Home at Allesley (2,951): the transfers of nursing staffs between the hospital and its two annexes are also carried out as routine.

An effort has been made to recondition some of the ambulances which have all seen some years of service and in October, 1946, five new Humber ambulances were ordered.

The ambulance station in Wheatley Street is a war-time expedient and is far from satisfactory. A serious effort has been made to obtain more suitable premises and at the time of writing this has been achieved.

City Isolation Hospital.

During 1946, there were 839 patients treated at the City Hospital, of which 20 were admitted from outside the City under arrangements with adjacent local authorities.

Patients admitted to hospital as suffering from diphtheria, and subsequently verified as such, numbered 110 with three deaths. Several others admitted for observation as possible cases of diphtheria were later proved to be non-diphtheritic.

Other cases admitted to the Hospital were as follows :—

Scarlet Fever, 130; gastro-enteritis of infants, 126 with 44 deaths; enteritis of older people (including 3 cases of Sonné dysentery), 32 cases with 1 death; paratyphoid fever, 2; cerebro-spinal fever, 5 together with several other forms of meningitis; poliomyelitis, 6; several miscellaneous cases of a severe or complicated nature (*e.g.* puerperal pyrexia).

With regard to the high mortality rate from infantile gastro-enteritis, it is pertinent to say that a high proportion of these cases are admitted to the hospital *in extremis* and, at the best of times, this disease is most intractible and difficult to treat, requiring most exacting attention from both doctors and nurses. Consequently, it has been the policy, in so far as is possible, to limit the number of admissions according to the cots and nursing staff available and the severity of the case. The Medical Superintendent emphasises that as an ideal, at least 2 nurses, preferably with special training, should be available for every 3 sick babies. A similar policy has also, of necessity, to be applied to Scarlet Fever patients, whereby the greater proportion admitted are of a complicated nature or come from home environments which are not suitable for domiciliary treatment.

It is therefore apparent that the serious shortage of nursing staff is a very grave problem and many more patients could be admitted to Hospital but for this great handicap.

There has been a certain amount of minor sickness among the nursing staff during the year under review.

Housing and Sanitary Circumstances.

The number of appeals directed to this Department requesting early consideration for priority housing shows no signs of abating, and many applicants are in dire straits due to factors arising either out of illness or overcrowding.

An increasing population tends to accentuate the difficulties, and the Housing Committee and Department are in a most unenviable position in allocating available accommodation from such a huge waiting list as exists in Coventry. Further reference to the effects of present housing conditions has already been made in the preamble to this report, and there is little need for me to stress further the many evils to public health which arise therefrom—they are apparent to all, and are constantly in everyone's thoughts.

The work of the Sanitary Inspectorate in dealing with a variety of housing complaints is perhaps not always fully appreciated by the uninformed. Shortages of labour and materials are never conducive to speedy repairs, yet there is much to be commended in the results achieved during 1946, as the table on page 22 will indicate.

The number of persons attending the Cleansing Centre for treatment during the year was 51, as compared with 230 for the preceding year.

Supervision of Food Supplies.

The following information and comments are based on data abstracted from the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report on the work performed in his Department during 1946 :—

Abattoir. Number of animals slaughtered and inspected was 53,174 (*i.e.*, 36,903 sheep; 662 pigs; and 15,609 cattle, including cows and calves).

Milk. 20,000 gallons are estimated to have been consumed in the City during the year and originate from the following sources :—

Milk from farms in the City ...	2,000 gallons.
Milk from farms within 25/30 miles radius ...	13,000 gallons.
Milk in bulk from distributing depôts ...	5,000 gallons.

Of the 20,000 gallons, approximately 18,500 gallons are pasteurised or heat-treated, while about 20 per cent. of the remainder is either Accredited or Tuberculin Tested milk. Many routine samples of milk are taken throughout the year from all sources supplying the City and are sent for comprehensive analysis—the standard of milk distributed has been generally satisfactory. During the year, 686 inspections were made of dairies, milk shops and milk vehicles.

Ice-Cream. Although every effort is made to ensure the selling of pure ice-cream to the public in Coventry, yet many samples have, on analysis, been shown to be bacteriologically unsound. Suggestions and advice given by the departmental staff is usually appreciated and acted upon by most traders. Prior to the present year, there were apparently no national standards of bacteriological or chemical wholesomeness laid down for the control of ice-cream. In 1946, however, the Minister of Health made draft regulations—"Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations"—designed to protect the public against risk of infection from the consumption of ice-cream. It is hoped that during succeeding years the standards governing the sale of ice-cream will be raised considerably, since the position up to the present time has been far from satisfactory.

The amount of work done by your Meat and Food Inspectors to safeguard the general public against diseased, tainted and unwholesome foods is indeed very extensive and has been carried out in a most efficient manner throughout the year.

Water Supplies.

The public water supplies to the City were kept under close observation during the year and regular chemical and bacteriological examinations were made: reports were submitted to the Water Committee monthly, and these were in all cases satis-

factory. Some difficulty arose in connection with the chlorination of one public supply, but after careful experiment and long observation the characteristic taste was eliminated.

Public Relations and Health Education.

During the year medical members of the departmental staff gave lectures and talks to various organisations throughout the City. Such talks invariably deal with subjects related to public health and hygiene and, in addition, provide representative sections of the community with informed glimpses of the municipal health machine at work.

Valued assistance is given by the showing of health films and the provision of appropriate health literature by the Central Council for Health Education, to whom the Local Authority make an annual subscription.

Staff Changes.

The year has been marked by many changes in staff, particularly in the Health Visiting and in the Clerical sections.

In the first place I would like to welcome back after service in the Forces: Dr. Kane, Messrs Wood, Ellis, Salt and Johnson. Of the eight members of the clerical staff who went into the Services the four above have returned, three others returned and have gone to other posts, and one (Mr. M. Dodd) made the supreme sacrifice.

Dr. G. Richards left to take up another appointment and Dr. Wilkins resigned during the course of the year. Dr. C. I. Ham and Dr. C. I. Howat were appointed as Assistant Medical Officers of Health (M. & C.W.).

On the Sanitary Inspection staff, I have to record with great regret the death of Mr. Pickering. The loss of this young and promising officer was a tragic blow, occurring as it did under such unfortunate circumstances.

On the Health Visiting staff there have been seven appointments and four resignations.

On the Clerical Staff there were five appointments and six of the permanent and two of the temporary staff left. The many changes in the offices have placed additional burdens on the remaining members and the present difficulty in obtaining junior male or female clerks in no way ameliorates the position.

The first full time non-medical supervisor of midwives (Miss M. A. E. Taylor) commenced duty in May.

Conclusion.

I feel sure it would have been my predecessor's wish to have expressed his appreciation of the helpfulness and courtesy afforded by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee during his last complete year of office in Coventry,

and for the ready and able assistance afforded by all members of his staff. It is, therefore, my privilege to record this acknowledgment on his behalf.

As I write, fundamental changes are due to take place under the impetus of the National Health Service Act of 1946, changes which will inevitably re-fashion the scope and work of the Health Committee and Department respectively: changes which I hope to record more fully in succeeding Annual Reports.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. MORRISON CLAYTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

August, 1947.

Table of Comparative Vital Statistics over a period of nine years
for Coventry, the large Towns, and England and Wales.

	BIRTH RATE			DEATH RATE			INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE		
	Coventry	126 Large Towns	England and Wales	Coventry	126 Large Towns	England and Wales	Coventry	126 Large Towns	England and Wales
1938	16.5	15.0	15.1	9.5	11.7	11.6	56	57	53
1939	17.7	14.8	15.0	9.4	12.0	12.1	55	53	50
1940	16.4	16.0	14.6	13.3	15.8	14.3	63	61	55
1941	17.1	14.7	14.2	12.8	14.9	12.9	55	71	59
1942	19.3	17.3	15.8	10.2	13.3	11.6	62	59	49
1943	21.2	18.6	16.5	9.6	14.2	12.1	49	58	49
1944	24.8	20.3	17.6	9.0	13.7	11.6	48	52	46
1945	22.2	19.1	16.1	10.5	13.5	11.4	68	54	46
1946	22.4	22.2	19.1	10.0	12.7	11.5	54	46	43

VITAL STATISTICS OF CITY DURING 1946 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE CITY.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE CITY.			
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate per 1,000 population.	of Non-residents registered in the City.	of Residents not registered in the City.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number	Rate per 1,000 population.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number.	Rate per 1,000 population.
1941	193,070	3,301	3,301	17.1	2,097	10.1	142	670	156	54.8	2,483	12.8
1942	207,200	3,996	3,996	19.3	1,617	8.0	59	577	249	62.3	2,076	10.2
1943	214,870	4,889	4,889	21.2	1,683	7.3	57	593	244	49.9	2,219	9.6
1944	220,400	5,466	5,466	24.8	1,664	6.9	81	583	265	48.4	2,166	9.0
1945	221,970	4,949	4,949	22.2	1,847	8.3	68	569	338	68.2	2,348	10.5
1946	232,850	4,326	5,225	22.4	1,856	7.9	69	562	284	54.3	2,349	10.0

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH, YEAR 1946.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Total Deaths			Under 1 year	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Deaths in Institutions	
	Males	Females	Total							City	Out of City
1. Typhoid and para-typhoid Fevers .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	1	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..
3. Scarlet Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Whooping Cough	4	2	6	4	2	..	..	..	..	2	1
5. Diphtheria.. ..	2	2	4	..	1	3	..	..	..	4	..
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	88	49	137	..	1	3	82	44	7	17	30
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	10	12	22	2	5	3	10	1	1	17	..
8. Syphilitic Diseases	14	2	16	1	..	..	1	9	5	3	5
9. Influenza	18	10	28	..	..	..	5	14	9	4	..
10. Measles	1	1	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis	2	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2
13. Cancer of buccal cavity and œsophagus (M), uterus (F)	16	24	40	..	..	1	3	14	22	6	9
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	35	18	53	..	..	..	4	28	21	11	5
15. Cancer of Breast... ..	..	40	40	..	..	..	5	18	17	4	5
16. Cancer of all other sites..	136	86	222	..	1	..	14	113	94	43	33
17. Diabetes	5	10	15	..	..	..	3	2	10	8	..
18. Intracranial Vascular Lesions	119	138	257	..	..	..	9	72	176	45	38
19. Heart Disease	321	256	577	..	..	3	26	123	425	63	131
20. Other diseases of Circulatory System	25	17	42	..	..	..	4	15	23	115	8
21. Bronchitis	78	38	116	1	1	..	7	34	73	11	19
22. Pneumonia	59	48	107	51	2	1	8	19	26	42	13
23. Other Respiratory Disorders	19	18	37	1	1	..	11	17	7	19	8
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	27	3	30	..	..	..	3	18	9	18	4
25. Diarrhœa under 2 years..	42	22	64	62	2	..	..	..	..	54	1
26. Appendicitis	3	9	12	..	1	1	3	5	2	1	..
27. Other digestive disorders	25	33	58	4	1	..	11	22	20	38	4
28. Nephritis	32	20	52	..	..	1	9	20	22	..	8
29. Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis .. ..	..	3	3	..	..	..	3	..	..	1	..
30. Other maternal causes ..	..	4	4	..	..	..	3	1	..	2	..
31. Premature Birth... ..	40	41	81	81	..	..	..	..	..	55	3
32. Congenital malformations, Birth Injuries Infant Diseases ..	39	25	64	60	1	1	2	..	..	84	2
33. Suicide	19	9	28	..	..	..	9	16	3	11	2
34. Road Traffic Accidents ..	18	10	28	..	1	3	12	6	6	23	4
35. Other violent causes ..	29	28	57	10	6	4	15	4	18	30	6
36. All other causes	78	65	143	6	5	2	21	44	65	..	..
TOTALS ..	1905	1044	2349	284	32	28	284	659	1062	582	341

Vital Statistics. (Historical Summary).

Year.	Houses Inhabited (December)	Vacant.	Popula- tion (Mid-year)	Mortality	Infectious Mortality	Deaths under one year per 1000 born.	Birth Rate
1586	..	..	6,502	..	..	..	..
1643	..	..	9,500	..	..	..	..
1694	..	..	6,711	..	..	..	..
1723	1,934	..	..	..	..	..	..
1748	2,066	..	12,817	..	..	..	..
1801	2,930	..	16,034	..	..	..	..
1811	3,448	*60	17,923	..	..	..	..
1821	3,729	*114	21,448	..	..	..	..
1831	5,444	*421	27,298	..	..	..	..
1841	6,531	*590	31,032	..	..	..	..
Ten Years' Average.							
1851	7,783	*151	36,812	27	..	..	..
1861	8,991	*1,026	40,936	25	..	..	..
1871	8,535	*816	37,670	22	..	..	..
1881	9,223	*643	42,111	20	3'3	150	35'4
1891	11,465	*284	52,724	18'5	1'7	142	32'0
1901	15,571	353	69,978	16'96	1'9	153'7	29'8
1911	23,515	95	106,349	13'7	1'4	109'3	28'0
1921	28,355	502†	128,157	11'3	0'7	83'6	23'2
1931	41,275	917†	167,083	10'1	0'2	67'7	15'7
1897	†12,440	73	61,234	16'8	1'8	157	31'3
1911	23,515	95	107,287	13'3	2'08	109'8	26'9
1912	24,590	50	111,166	11'9	1'35	76'1	26'4
1913	25,051	113	115,064	11'4	0'84	91'6	26'0
1914	25,860	99	119,003	11'7	0'70	84'6	26'9
1915	26,667	56	122,982	12'9	1'39	87'8	23'8
1916	27,366	12	127,089	10'9	1'23	87'5	23'5
1917	27,531	15	130,000	10'4	0'47	78'5	20'2
1918	27,735	25	133,000	14'6	0'42	92'5	20'7
1919	27,829	20	136,000	9'3	0'32	82'8	18'2
1920	27,973	48	130,000	9'8	0'35	76'0	25'0
1921	28,355	502†	128,157	10'2	0'25	79'3	22'1
1922	28,661	72	129,000	10'0	0'34	70'4	18'9
1923	29,414	40	130,500	9'3	0'20	64'9	16'9
1924	29,685	90	132,000	9'6	0'19	79'4	16'0
1925	30,199	83	133,500	10'6	0'30	77'1	16'3
1926	31,034	111	135,000	9'7	0'15	68'9	15'7
1927	32,260	151	139,000	10'2	0'23	63'4	14'8
1928	38,474	175	161,600°	9'6	0'34	65'7	14'4
1929	39,374	750	163,700	12'1	0'63	73'1	14'8
1930	40,519	800	165,800	10'1	0'32	57'0	14'5
1931	41,275	917	168,900	10'0	0'10	57'7	14'8
1932	45,781	1000	182,000°	9'4	0'33	69'7	13'5
1933	47,175	1000	184,500	9'9	0'21	64'5	13'4
1934	48,730	1500	184,900	10'0	0'17	57'1	13'6
1935	50,622	1854	190,000	9'7	0'16	46'5	14'4
1936	54,273	1361	192,360	10'1	0'20	51'8	15'1
1937	57,888	1606	206,500	10'4	0'18	48'5	15'7
1938	61,580	1316	229,900	9'5	0'13	56'0	16'5
1939	—	—	—	9'4	—	54'6	17'7
1940	—	—	229,400	13'3	0'11	63'0	16'4
1941	—	—	193,070	12'8	0'21	54'8	17'1
1942	—	—	207,200	10'2	0'07	62'3	19'3
1943	—	—	214,870	9'6	0'23	49'9	21'2
1944	65,926	—	220,400	9'0	0'24	48'4	24'8
1945	—	—	221,970	10'5	0'30	68'2	22'2
1946	—	—	232,850	10'0	0'32	54'3	22'4

* This number includes all business offices, whether in dwelling houses or factories, not occupied on the night the Census was taken.

† This number omits all business offices, factories, etc.

‡ The Census returns show unoccupied "dwellings"—not houses.

° In these years an extension of the City Boundaries took place.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1946.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Total number of cases notified.	NOTIFICATIONS IN AGE GROUPS.						NOTIFICATIONS IN THE VARIOUS WARDS OF THE CITY.																
		Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 & under 25.	25 & under 45.	45 & under 65.	65 & upwards.	All Saints	Bablake	Cheylesmore	Earlsdon	Foleshill	Grey Friars	Hannall	Hill Fields	Longford	Radford	St. Mary's	St Paul's	Lower Stoke	Upper Stoke	Westwood	Walsgrave
Small-pox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera (C) Plague (P) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	115	..	27	51	19	17	1	..	1	6	7	2	5	8	8	5	7	8	2	3	10	9	12	22
Erysipelas	66	..	..	4	3	17	31	11	..	6	1	1	3	6	2	2	6	7	..	2	3	2	10	15
Scarlet fever	232	1	59	144	13	14	1	..	17	25	19	14	6	13	1	3	15	28	..	2	15	6	41	27
Typhus fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric fever	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Relapsing fever (R) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued fever (C) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia	50	..	..	..	16	34	..	..	1	7	3	..	3	7	3	2	1	7	1	3	1	2	2	7
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	12	3	4	4	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	1	1
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	5	..	2	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	6	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	2
Respiratory Tuberculosis	283	..	8	24	75	123	50	3	14	27	24	9	9	21	14	8	18	37	7	7	16	12	40	20
Other forms of Tuberculosis	37	1	4	10	12	10	..	..	1	4	3	2	2	2	..	1	2	4	..	2	1	2	5	6
Malaria	6	..	..	..	2	4	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	1
Dysentery	14	2	2	5	2	2	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	..	..	1	1	3	2
Acute Primary Pneumonia	155	17	31	18	9	39	26	15	3	12	11	4	2	19	6	2	11	37	..	4	13	2	25	4
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	20	..	..	1	..	3	11	5	3	..	1	..	1	1	1	3	6	1	..	..	..	1	2	..
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Polio-Encephalitis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken Pox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	1076	57	585	415	11	8	..	..	13	106	73	34	24	148	23	22	50	109	4	25	104	38	265	38
Whooping Cough	628	72	402	147	3	4	..	..	11	91	28	26	19	51	5	7	55	64	6	4	51	23	85	103
Totals	2708	159	1124	827	165	277	122	34	64	291	173	94	75	278	64	56	175	308	19	53	215	99	492	252

Tuberculosis.

YEAR		CASES ON REGISTER		CASES NOTIFIED (or brought to notice)		DEATHS			
		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
						No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1938	M.	524	75	134	38	81	0.63	12	0.09
	F.	359	81	97	29	57		8	
1939	M.	535	88	165	29	93	0.63	8	0.09
	F.	361	93	99	40	55		15	
1940	M.	578	115	194	44	125	0.72	12	0.12
	F.	362	111	102	30	70		13	
1941	M.	598	122	191	29	103	0.71	12	0.08
	F.	371	111	85	20	42		4	
1942	M.	636	124	184	32	76	0.60	13	0.15
	F.	402	109	131	29	50		19	
1943	M.	710	142	258	36	118	0.72	16	0.10
	F.	450	124	137	34	48		7	
1944	M.	797	140	235	21	91	0.59	8	0.08
	F.	471	131	121	25	52		12	
1945	M.	848	142	227	30	126	0.79	10	0.04
	F.	542	136	147	31	51		10	
1946	M.	857	119	162	13	88	0.58	10	0.09
	F.	564	136	132	29	49		12	

Live Register of Tuberculosis Patients.

	Pulmonary Cases.			Non-Pulmonary Cases.			Total Cases (All Forms).		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1. No. on Register at 31/12/1945...	848	542	1390	142	136	278	990	678	1668
2. Cases notified (or otherwise coming to knowledge) in 1946	162	132	294	13	29	42	175	161	336
3. Cases removed from Register in 1946	153	110	263	36	29	65	189	139	328
4. No. on Register at 31/12/1946...	857	564	1421	119	136	255	976	700	1676

Record of work performed at the V.D. Treatment Centre.

	YEARS						
	1916	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940
No. of New Cases :							
Syphilis	249	111	149	127	110	60	60
Chancre	1	1	—	1	1	—	1
Gonorrhoea	340	312	374	340	301	207	233
Non V.D. . . .	882	746	799	653	304	132	216
Total new Cases	1472	1,170	1322	1121	716	399	510

Mental Treatment Acts, 1930.

Under this Act treatment in a mental hospital or an institution is available without prior certification to persons of unsound mind who are accepted as voluntary applicants for treatment, or for whom temporary treatment is recommended by their medical advisers.

During 1946 the facilities under this Act were utilised as follows :—

1—No. of patients in Central Hospital, Hatton, under this Act on Jan. 1st, 1946	Voluntary	101
	Temporary	2
2—No. of patients admitted during 1946	Voluntary	244
	Temporary	11
3—No. of patients discharged or died ...	Voluntary	145
	Temporary	10
4—No. of patients remaining in Hospital at 31st December, 1946	Voluntary	200
	Temporary	3

Of the 255 patients admitted in the year, 56 had previously received treatment in a mental hospital. The average length of stay in hospital of the 155 discharges or deaths was 62 days.

Table shewing Classification of all Mental Defectives on Register at 1st January, 1937, and how dealt with.

Classification	In Institutions*			Under Guardianship			Under Supervision in own homes			Grand Totals		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Feeble-minded ...	61	74	135	3	11	14	142	105	247	206	190	396
Imbeciles ...	32	31	63	6	5	11	43	35	78	81	71	152
Idiots ...	9	6	15	—	1	1	4	3	7	13	10	23
Moral Imbeciles ...	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	3
TOTALS ...	103	112	215	9	17	26	190	143	333	302	272	574

Totals do not include:—

4 (3 males, 1 female) home supervision cases not classified.
 16 (6 " 10 ") on licence from Institutions.
 4 (2 " 2 ") in State Institutions.

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SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

That portion of the work of the Health Department connected with nuisances in and around dwellings and with property improvements can best be set out in tabular form. The figures in relation to these matters for the year are as follows :—

DRAINAGE AND PAVEMENT.		1945.	1946.
Drains opened and cleansed from obstruction	...	2014	1690
Drains provided with efficient traps	... ..	14	25
New Drains, inspection and intercepting chambers provided	... ..	53	72
Drains relaid	... ..	99	97
Soil pipes and ventilating shafts improved or repaired	...	34	54
Rain water pipes disconnected from the sewer	...	4	2
Courts and back yards paved and repaired	... ..	33	45
Sink drains disconnected from the sewer	... ..	—	3

DWELLINGS.			
Floors of dwellings relaid or repaired	... ..	425	431
Dilapidated walls and ceilings repaired	... ..	291	901
Damp walls—Damp courses inserted	... ..	8	21
Repointed or cement rendered	...	59	81
Roofs repaired and made weatherproof	... ..	467	655
Dangerous stairs repaired	... ..	18	30
Additional windows provided and others repaired and made to open	... ..	112	245
Defective spouts repaired	... ..	200	311
Houses provided with food stores	... ..	—	—
Existing pantries provided with external ventilation	...	—	—
Sculleries provided or reconstructed or enlarged	...	2	—
Wash houses provided	... ..	—	—
New sinks provided	... ..	12	23
New waste pipes provided and others repaired	...	158	136
Foul cellars cleansed and defects in drains remedied	...	9	33
Houses limewashed and cleansed	... ..	15	20
Houses cleansed after infectious disease	... ..	4	—
Verminous houses and furniture disinfested	... ..	132	184
Cases of overcrowding remedied	... ..	—	5

WATER CLOSETS AND URINALS.			
Additional water closets provided	... ..	16	12
Water closets reconstructed	... ..	16	12
Water closets repaired and limewashed	... ..	67	73
Water closets provided with new basins and traps	...	89	112
Water closet pans replaced with pedestals	... ..	74	83
Defective joints in flush pipes repaired	... ..	140	166
Foul water closet basins and traps cleansed	... ..	38	27
Defective water closet cisterns repaired	... ..	283	391
New flushing cisterns provided	... ..	55	44
Urinals cleansed and reconstructed	... ..	—	1
Urinals abolished	... ..	—	—

PRIVIES, CESSPOOLS, ASHPITS AND DUSTBINS.			
Cesspools abolished	... ..	16	54
Offensive privies or pail closets converted into water closets	... ..	7	12
Offensive privies or pail closets abolished	... ..	4	12
New water closets erected in place of above	...	—	—
Offensive ashpits abolished	... ..	2	—
Sanitary dustbins provided in place of above	...	7	—
Other houses provided with sanitary dustbins	..	580	692

VARIOUS.				1945.	1946.
Smoke nuisances dealt with	...	...	...	4	30
Nuisances from animals kept, abated	...	...	...	27	15
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	792	410
Courts and back yards cleansed by tenants	...	...	...	88	50
Gipsy tents and caravans removed	...	...	...	18	33
Cowshed improvements	...	...	...	7	4
Dairies reconstructed or improved	...	...	...	6	8
Water supply—additional taps provided	...	...	...	7	8
Polluted wells dispensed with	...	...	...	3	7
Town water supplied in place of well water	...	...	...	10	18
Offensive ditches cleansed	...	...	...	7	17
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	769	836
Improvements effected at factories	...	...	...	—	4
Improvements effected at shops and food premises	...	...	...	4	10
Bombed sites cleared	...	...	...	148	60
Drains sealed on bombed sites	...	...	...	23	10
				<u>7479</u>	<u>8275</u>

PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS OF CARCASSES AND ORGANS SLAUGHTERED AT THE PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

			Cattle other than Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number slaughtered			7285	3338	4986	36903	662
Number inspected			7285	3338	4986	36903	662
Diseases and conditions other than tuberculosis	Whole carcasses unfit		7	37	37	65	7
	Carcasses of which some part or organ unfit		1480	528	51	1759	106
	Percentage affected of carcasses inspected		20.41	16.93	1.76	4.94	17.07
Tuberculosis	Whole carcass unfit		26	125	7	2	5
	Carcasses of which some part or organ unfit		924	1474	15	—	54
	Percentage affected of carcasses inspected		13.04	47.90	.44	.0054	8.91

NOTES.—(1) All female bovines that have had a calf are classified as cows.

(2) Carcasses affected with tuberculosis and some other disease or condition are classified only as abnormal carcasses affected with tuberculosis.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE MEAT INSPECTORS AT THE PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

Ante and post-mortem examinations of animals slaughtered at the abattoir ..	53174
Post-mortem examinations of animals admitted dead, or dying in lairages ..	11
Post-mortem examinations of country dressed carcasses	165
Re-inspections of home killed meat (bone taint, etc.)	14
Routine inspections of U.S. mutton carcasses	770
Other detailed inspections of imported meat	77
Inspections of imported canned meat	1997
Identification of organs and tissues at request of enforcement officers ..	14
Inspections of food other than meat	32
Inspections of Fatstock Collecting Centre	48

Inspections under Public Health (Meat) Regulations :—

Wholesale Meat Depot	304	}	2427
Cold Stores	59				
Transport	2064				

Inspections under the Public Health Acts (Offensive Trades premises) :—

Triperies	152	}	353
By-products (blood, tallow, etc.)	84				
Gut store	67				
Hide store	50				

TOTAL .. 59082

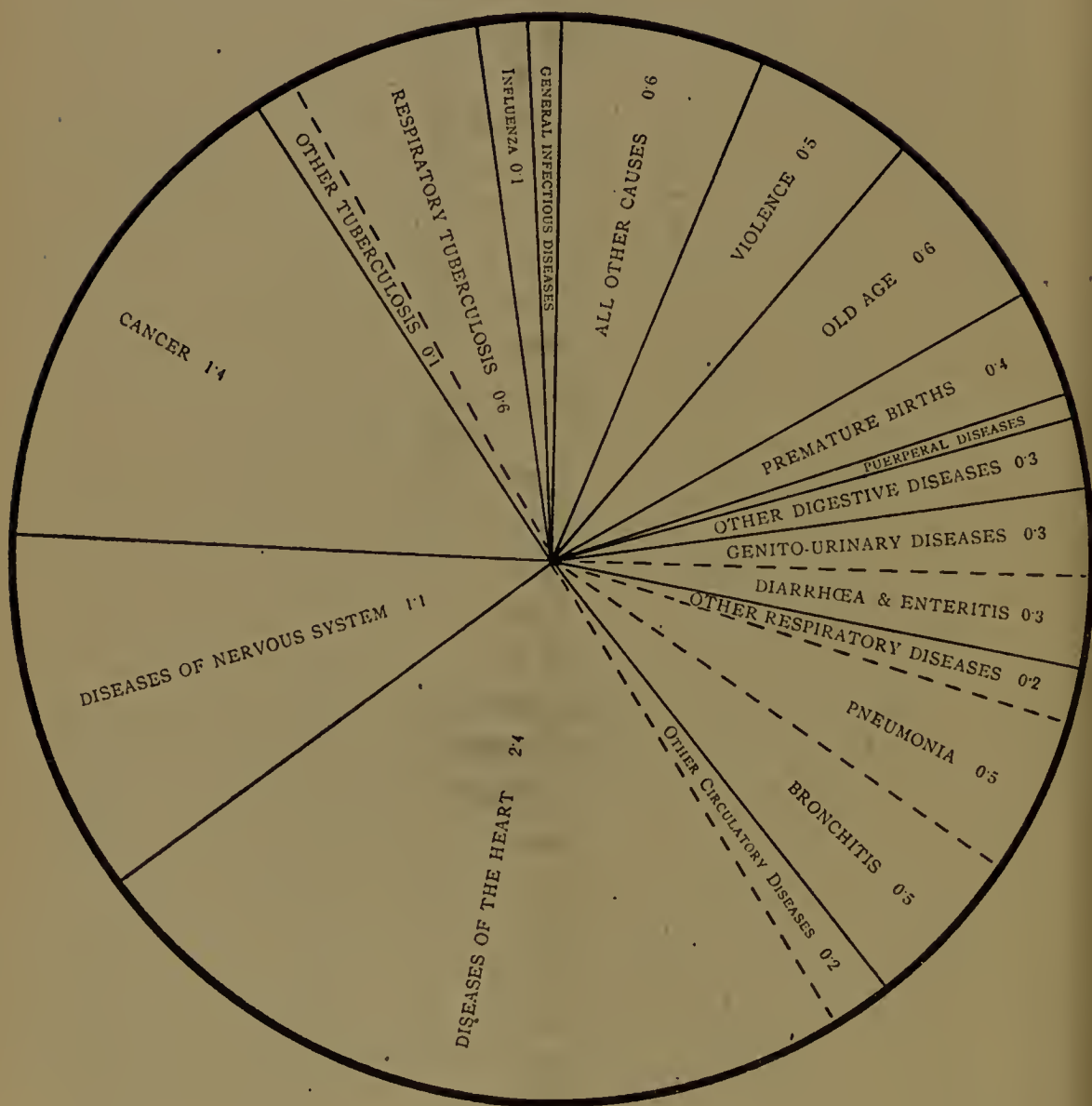
Collection of Organs for Pharmaceutical Purposes.

Lbs.	Livers	Spinal Cords	Pancreas	Thyroids	Suprarenals	Ovaries	Orchitics	Prostates	Number Pituitaries
Cattle ..	34,103	2,974	4,214½	339½	378¾	147½	331	25½	1,580
Calves ..	—	—	62½	—	—	—	—	*	*
Sheep ..	298	—	779	232¾	—	8½	103½	—	—
Pigs ..	—	—	24¼	—	—	7¼	41½	—	—

* Additional to range previously collected.

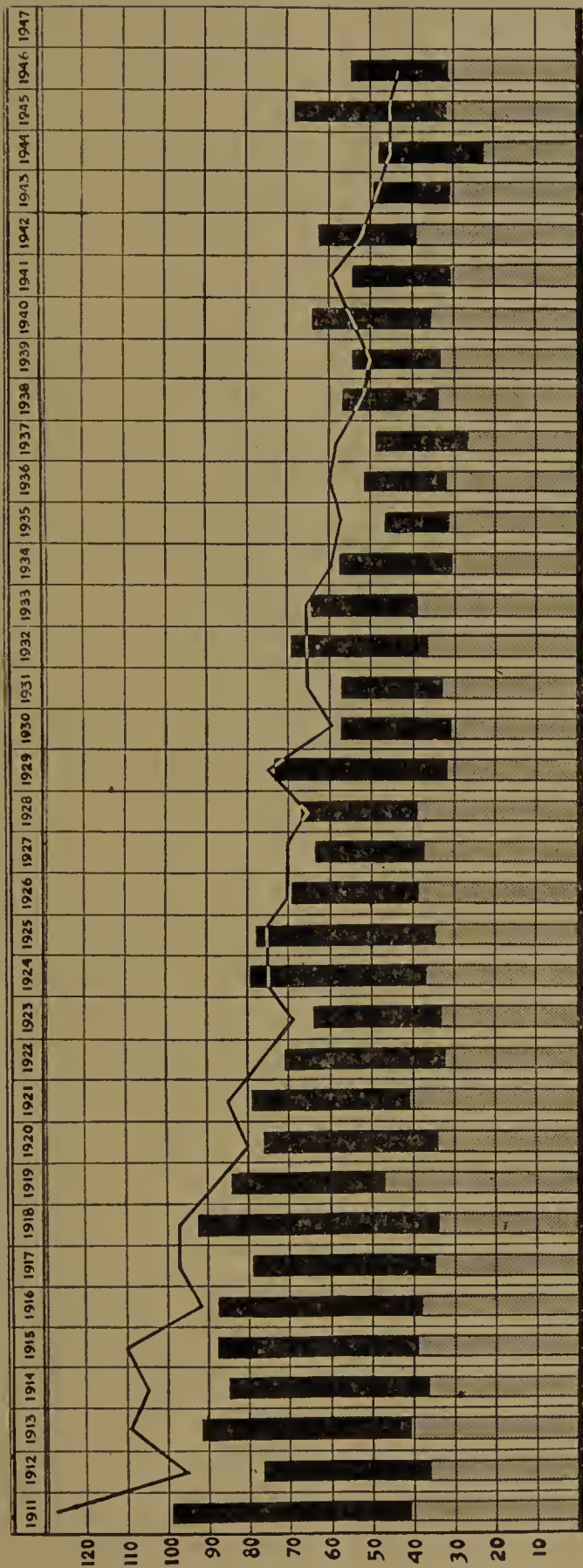
	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Total weight of livers approved for pharmaceutical purposes only ..	15	7	0	17
Total weight of other glands collected ..	4	6	1	9½

PROPORTIONS OF DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES
TO TOTAL DEATHS, 1946.



The Total Death Rate from all Causes was 10.0.

CHART SHOWING THE INFANT MORTALITY PER 1,000 BIRTHS IN COVENTRY.



The Infant Death Rate per 1,000 births is represented by the chimneys, the shaded portion of which represents the death rate amongst babies under four weeks of age (*i.e.*, the neo-natal death rate).

The Infant Death Rate for England and Wales is represented by the line.

